

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 32 beginning at line 11 as follows:

--[0071] Regarding all the optical fibers of Samples [[B-F]] B - I, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1310 nm is 0.32 dB/km or less; the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.31 dB/km or less, the loss increase due to OH-radical at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.10 dB/km or less, and the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1550 nm is 0.176 dB/km or less. Each of the optical fibers has the pure silica core and the F-doped cladding.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 32 and bridging page 33 beginning at line 17 as follows:

--[0072] On the other hand, the optical fiber of Comparative Example B has the cable cutoff wavelength of 1158 nm, the mode field diameter of 9.13 μm at the wavelength of 1310 nm, the zero dispersion wavelength of 1316 nm, the chromatic dispersion of 16.50 ps/nm/km at the wavelength of 1550 nm, the dispersion slope of 0.0584 ps/nm²/km at the wavelength of 1550 nm, and the zero dispersion slope of 0.0850 ps/nm²/km. In addition, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1310 nm is 0.33 dB/km ~~or less~~, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.62 dB/km, the loss increase due to OH-radical at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.31 dB/km ~~or less~~, and the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1550 nm is 0.19 dB/km ~~or less~~. This optical fiber of Comparative Example B has the Ge-doped core and the pure silica cladding.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 33 and bridging page 34 beginning at line 11 as follows:

--[0073] Fig 9 is a graph showing locations of (MFD, λ_{cc}) of the optical fibers of respective Samples B-F and Comparative Example B, on a two-dimensional space in which the horizontal axis represents the mode field diameter MFD at the wavelength of 1310 nm and the vertical axis the cable cutoff wavelength λ_{cc} , and also showing equal chromatic dispersion curves at the wavelength of 1550 nm. In this Fig. 9, marks \blacktriangle B- \blacktriangle F indicate (MFD, λ_{cc}) of the optical

fibers of Samples B-F, and mark ΔB (MFD, λ_{cc}) of the optical fiber of Comparative Example B. Graph G910 indicates an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 17 ps/nm/km or less, graph G920 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 16 ps/nm/km or less, and graph G930 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 15 ps/nm/km or less. On the other hand, graph G940 indicates an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a fiber having the pure silica core with the chromatic dispersion of 16 ps/nm/km or less, and graph G950 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of an optical fiber having the pure silica core with the chromatic dispersion of 15 ps/nm/km or less.--